

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Att'y. Docket No: 047744/0106

In re patent application of
KNAPPIK, Achim *et al.*

Serial No.: Unassigned

09/490324

Filed: Concurrently herewith

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to calculating the filing fee for the captioned application, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-55 without prejudice or disclaimer and add the following claims:

56. A (poly)peptide comprising an amino acid consensus sequence capable of being identified by the steps of:

- (a) deducing from a collection of at least three homologous proteins one or more (poly)peptide sequences comprising at least one amino acid consensus sequence;
- (b) optionally, identifying amino acids in said (poly)peptide sequences to be modified so as to remove unfavorable interactions between amino acids within or between said or other (poly)peptide sequences;
- (c) identifying at least one structural sub-element within each of said (poly)peptide sequences;

AI
Cmt